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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE
Washington 25, D. C.

REPORT OF THE 4-H PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

National 4-H Club Camp
June 16-23, 1954

A copy of the program of this Committee (attached) includes a list of the members. All were present excepting Osgood Magnussen, Minnesota, and George Sharpe, West Virginia.

Details of the program were followed. Mr. R. G. Hill, Michigan, assisted as Chairman and Glenn Baird, Utah, kept the minutes. The minutes are based on the items of the program.

Introductions

Introductions of members were made.

National 4-H Club Camp

Programs of the National 4-H Club Camp and Committee were reviewed.

Nature and Content of Report for this Committee

Tascher made following suggestions:

- (1) Statements from members for a better 4-H Club Program in Soil and Water Conservation.
- (2) Specific recommendations for action.

Integrating Soil, Cover and Animal Factors in 4-H Club Activities

Aiton and Tascher sent letter to all soil conservation specialists and State 4-H Club leaders. Replies have been favorable and some good material has been received from States.

E. C. Turner stated that educational value of many feeding projects has been lost. We go out too much for the grand champion. Some reaction against these projects -- they are not practical. Our specialists have discussed this possibility: member carry a livestock or crop project, but take a look at the whole farm. Consider the land and other assets; take inventory of present situation and determine needs insofar as long-time conservation planning is concerned (consider such items as amount of hay produced in relation to needs and farming within capabilities of land). Then follow up by showing what changes are needed to fill gap between the situation now and what is needed.



Thompson remarked that this idea of companion projects or activities sounds good.

Campbell said that Montana specialists agree that this idea of integrating can best be covered with activities rather than projects. Have developed some outlines.

Tascher remarked that this approach could get complex -- need to give attention to materials and methods.

Dr. Garman stated that the American Plant Food Council had about \$7500 budget and were ready to participate in a program to further this integration. The Council would like Extension to write program. Council would like this work definitely tied to the soil.

Tascher remarked that perhaps we have not emphasized farm forest and woodlot areas enough. They are very important from water conservation and use standpoint.

Chairman Hill referred to reports on integration of land, forage and animals from Oklahoma and Nebraska.

The committee agreed that projects or activities to further understanding between the relationships of land, forage and livestock should be developed in the States. Tascher should keep States informed as to progress and discuss this item with other specialists and program planning groups at the Federal office.

Plans for 4-H Club Work - American Plant Food Council

Dr. Garman, of the American Plant Food Council, indicated that the \$7500 would be available on a fiscal year basis beginning July 1, 1954.

The program of integrating soil, cover and animal factors in 4-H Club activities and its relationship to proposals made by the American Plant Food Council were discussed, and the committee agreed on the following:

The primary need at the present time is to stimulate interest in this integration work on the part of State and county extension leaders. Perhaps the money available at the present time could best be used in the development of a filmograph to be supplemented by simple pamphlets and colored slide series. It is important that in the filmograph, only principles and general subject matter phases be developed if this film is to be useful in all areas.

It was moved by Campbell and seconded by Turner that our committee suggest to the Extension Subcommittee that a committee be appointed to work in cooperation with the American Plant Food Council in developing plans for the most effective educational use of the money available. Motion carried.

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Subcommittee Action - The action of the Soil and Water Conservation Committee was approved by the Subcommittee and the Soil and Water Conservation Committee was asked to follow up. Discussion with the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work should be arranged before additional program launched.

Action by Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work in Land Judging

Moved by Turner and seconded by Hedge that Soil and Water Conservation Committee recommend to Extension Subcommittee that land judging is a worthy 4-H activity. Motion carried.

Subcommittee Action - The motion was considered and reference made to 1953 action: "It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously that we approve land judging practice as an educational tool for teaching land use and land management."

Land Appreciation Schools and Land Judging

Maryland - One county very good; 4, some work.

Montana - One county very good; 4, some work.

Utah - None.

Michigan - Rapid spread, with State contests being held.

Considerable activity in some thirty States - interest in about 10 more.

Hill asked if score cards now used were too advanced for 4-H members. Will more trained leadership help?

Thompson reported on the 1954 National Contest in Oklahoma: (1) good educational features; (2) many differences as between States; (3) perhaps the type of contest better fits counties and States rather than National; (4) National Committee on 4-H could get a national sponsor; (5) National Committee looks to Extension for guidance; (6) benefit comes from great number who participate.

Hedge indicated the following as official SCS attitude: (1) Program is fine. (2) Is an educational tool, thus an Extension job. (3) SCS will help in training program.

Thompson asked if National Committee should make available a supply of medals for land judging contests.

Moved by Wilson and seconded by Campbell that National 4-H Committee prepare and have available suitable medal awards for land judging. Motion carried.

Mr. Thompson of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work is following up on this.

Moved by Turner and seconded by Robinson that Soil and Water Conservation Committee ask Extension Subcommittee to designate a committee to give national leadership to land judging. That this committee so designated be requested to work out details of a national contest in cooperation with Oklahoma.
Motion carried.

Subcommittee Action - The Soil and Water Conservation Committee was asked to work out details of a national land judging program for consideration of the Subcommittee.

Soil and Water Conservation Demonstrations

In some cases, soil conservation districts give support to demonstrations. Committee agreed that further consideration should be given to this item, including a survey of present situation.

A summary received from Mr. Thompson of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work shows that in 1954, States had scheduled soil and water demonstration contests as a part of the National Awards Program in 36 States.

Report on 4-H Club Activities of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company

No report. Firestone people were unable to attend this session because of prior meeting commitments.

Report on Soil and Water Conservation Days for Young Men and Women

Held in 4 States: Maryland, Washington, Colorado and Nebraska. One more scheduled in Georgia.

Objectives:

- (1) Make case for scientific agriculture.
- (2) Help young people to see the local resources clearly.
- (3) Provide land situations for personal experiences.
- (4) Show organization and resource pattern available for program use.
- (5) Help young people to know each other community-wide.

Generally very successful.

1954 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program Announcement - Standard Report and Score Card

Thompson referred to the 1954 awards program. Lineweaver's committee had suggested that an effort be made to standardize awards as follows:

- 4 - County.
- 1 - State - trip to Congress.
- No Sectional (where State award is a trip).
- Maintain scholarships.

Firestone couldn't go along for 1954 but will consider for 1955. Committee felt that county awards should be increased. Demonstration phase needs recognition and encouragement.

Foster reported (1) many poor records coming in on National Soil and Water Conservation Project; (2) often difficult to determine part member played in conservation work on farm; (3) top records are good but no depth; (4) must keep in mind that each State has different program and report requirements.

Moved by Turner and seconded by Wilson that committee recommend that 4 awards be made available to each county. Motion carried.

Moved by Thompson and seconded by Turner that the word "preferably" be added to the announcement on Sectional Awards so that it would read:

"Sixteen all-expense trips to the 33rd National 4-H Club Congress to be held in Chicago, November 28-December 2, 1954, inclusive, will be awarded preferably three to the highest scoring participants in each of the four Extension sections and four at large."

Motion carried.

Working Relationships on 4-H Club Work with Soil Conservation Districts - Representation on Committee

Campbell moved and Turner seconded that Soil and Water Conservation Committee recommend to the Subcommittee that they invite the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts to appoint a consulting member to the 4-H Club Soil and Water Conservation Committee. Motion carried.

Subcommittee Action - None. Will consider at later meeting.

Report by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work on 4-H Club Work

Thompson reported that 47 States accepted the National 4-H Soil and Water Conservation program, Pennsylvania being the exception. Puerto Rico also has program. (Statistics concerning the National 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program are on file with the Committee.) Progress being made in number participating but complete picture of participation is difficult to get -- important from standpoint of getting interest but perhaps not from reporting. Leaders Manual distribution totals 50,000 - 60,000.

In discussing quality of reports coming in to National Contests Committee, indicated: (1) Urge States and counties to give more attention to this. (2) Tied to this is need for more leadership training. (3) Usually no definite responsibility assigned for leadership training on State staffs.

Moved by Campbell and seconded by Robinson that we urge that on State staff, someone be given responsibility of coordinating 4-H conservation program. Motion carried.

Young Outdoor American Program - Izaak Walton League

Foster stated that the basic program has been endorsed by major youth groups. Youth leaders like the idea of naming their own delegates. For 1954-55 program, Izaak Walton League directors agreed to support 96 delegates; 4-H, FFA and Boy Scouts are each to name 16 delegates, the remaining 48 to be selected through Governor's committees in States. The at-large idea will be maintained to assure balance between groups at the National Convention.

Moved by Thompson and seconded by Campbell:

- (1) We agree that program has merit.
- (2) We encourage States to participate.
- (3) Suggest to League that copies of all material go to youth groups involved.
- (4) Suggest to League that State Extension Directors and representatives of other youth groups name representatives to Governor's committees.

Motion carried.

Soil and Water Conservation in Camping Programs

Robinson reported 12,000,000 boys and girls attended camps during 1954, mostly for pleasure. The American Camping Association recognizes six objectives:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Out-of-doors | (4) Education |
| (2) Recreation | (5) Social adjustment |
| (3) Group living | (6) Conservation |

Many States have suitable camping guides. All should be urged to prepare them. These might include soil conservation tour guides or have them separate.

Thompson stated that the Extension Subcommittee has appointed a camping committee of Thompson, Foster, R. J. Winters (State Club Leader of N. J.), and E. H. (Duke) Regnier (Extension Recreation Specialist of Illinois).

Moved by Robinson and seconded by Wilson that we recommend to Extension Service that each State emphasize conservation activity in 4-H Camps. Motion carried.

Recent Changes in SCS Policies Significant in 4-H Club Work in Soil and Water Conservation

Hedge reported: No change in policy of developing individual farm soil and water conservation plans but there has been some change in how we get there. In 1951 it was found that SCS technicians could not get around to service all requests and at that time, progressive farm planning was developed. This consisted of taking the farmer where he is at present and progressively make plans over several years and contacts. Then the SCS was given responsibility of technical phases of ACP. Now SCS is moving to the pattern set in 1951.

Three general classes or conditions of conservation work on farms are recognized:

- (1) Initial - 1 or 2 practices.
- (2) Advanced - Conservation farming guide given.
- (3) Basic - Conservation plan made.

Still recognize basic 1951 procedure but number in each group not definite -- rather total number of individuals cooperating with each district considered. Thus, SCS can work with farmers (including 4-H members) who are not developing complete plans.

National policy is broad and States write own program. Actual conservation work should not be done until farmers understand basic conservation concept.

Visual Aids and Other New Working Materials

Chairman Hill indicated that as new material comes from States to Tascher's office, he and Robinson should send copies to extension conservationists and SCS State Conservationists. Hill also indicated that one of the problems was to interest Home Demonstration Agents and women's groups in soil conservation activities. This interest will be reflected in 4-H Club work in soil conservation. It was also indicated that there has been some criticism to the effect that available bulletins and other subject-matter materials are too general. We need to be more careful in making our bulletins, etc., specific.

Robinson indicated that several new movies are available. Prints of movies that originally were in regional SCS libraries have been turned over to States. In some cases, they are at the State Agricultural College office and in other cases, at the State SCS office. The committee felt that this fact should be called to the attention of the extension soil conservationists.

Leadership Development for 4-H Club Work in Soil and Water Conservation

Thompson indicated that Leaders Manual for conservation projects are still available and can be ordered through the National 4-H Club Committee.

The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company is interested in leadership training.

Hedge indicated that there is a real tie-up between leadership training insofar as the 4-H soil and water conservation project is concerned and the soil conservation district governing bodies.

Hedge suggested that we encourage members of American Soil Conservation Society and other professional groups to assist in leadership training in 4-H soil and water conservation work.

Moved by Turner and seconded by Hedge that we urge State Extension leaders to use professional people in leadership conservation training. Motion carried.

SUMMARY MEETING AND PREPARATION FOR DELEGATES' SESSIONS - June 21

Hill, who acted as chairman for previous sessions, indicated that insofar as he knew, full agenda was covered and action taken by committee where needed.

Tascher is to advise with extension soil conservationists and 4-H supervisors on distribution of reports of the 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Committee.

Tascher said that he felt we needed to give more emphasis to woodland areas in conservation program. Hill commented that we have reached a point where more attention must be given to the water conservation phases of the program.

Tascher proposed that one of the State extension conservationists act as chairman of the Committee but the Committee felt that Tascher should continue in this capacity.

The Committee agreed that we should suggest to the Extension Subcommittee that the membership of the 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Committee be rotated, with some provisions being made for hold-over members each year.

Moved by Wilson and seconded by Hill that we recommend to the Extension Subcommittee that a definite meeting schedule of the 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Committee be set up each year in connection with the National 4-H Club Camp and if possible, that the Committee have opportunity of meeting one day in advance of Camp opening. Motion carried.

Subcommittee Action - Will consider in 1955 planning.

It was also suggested that 4-H members be invited to meet with the National 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Committee.

Committee Statement Prepared for Use in "Lights Around The World" Meeting

We believe that there is a lack of understanding as to the needs for land care in the United States: That we should try to bring about a better understanding of the problems and solutions so that our wonderful country can be kept strong and beautiful.

We believe that 4-H Club interests of boys and girls in the land should be started at an early age so that the 4-H span of years can be devoted to what we should learn and do in caring for our land.

We believe that the 4-H Club work in soil and water conservation can best be done with the help and cooperation of our parents.

We believe that the long-time program of 4-H Club work in many projects and activities are based on the land and its good treatment, and for that reason, we believe there should be closer ties between many of them.

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NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP

4-H CLUB PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

Members

George Foster, 4-H Club Office, Federal Extension Service
Eunice Heywood, Division of Home Economics, Federal Extension Service
W. S. Wilson, Assistant State 4-H Club Leader, Maryland
Glenn T. Baird, Supervisor, Extension Youth Programs, Utah
Osgood Magnussen, Assistant State 4-H Leader, Minnesota
A. M. Hedge, Chief, Farm and Ranch Planning Branch, SCS
Bert Robinson, Chief, Educational Relations Branch, SCS
K. H. Anderson, Assoc. Director, Nat'l Committee on Boys & Girls Club Work
Ty Thompson, Service Director, " " " " " "
H. D. Millhone, The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company
C. R. Miller, " " " " " "
E. C. Turner, Extension Soil Conservationist, South Carolina
R. G. Hill, " " " Michigan
George Sharpe, " " " West Virginia
Rex Campbell, " " " Montana
W. R. Tascher, " " " USDA-Washington, DC

Meeting Place and Time

Room 5202, South Agric. Building (SCS Conference Room)

Thursday, June 17	-	3:30 to 5:00 PM
Friday, June 18	-	9:00 to 11:00 AM
		1:30 to 5:00 PM
Saturday, June 19	-	1:30 to 2:45 PM (If needed)
Monday, June 21	-	9:00 - as needed (Extension Soil Conservationists)

Joint Meeting With Delegates

Hearing Room F - ICC

Tuesday, June 22 - 9:30 to 12:00 Noon

(Program development committee members who can will meet with delegates. Delegates will meet in groups of about 25. Then, with J. P. Schmidt as Moderator, a spokesman for the small group will report to the entire group.)

Guide questions suggested for group discussion:

- (1) What are the two best things we do now?
- (2) What are the two weakest spots?
- (3) On what two things should we get in our best licks next year?
- (4) What long-time basic jobs should we start or strengthen?

Suggested Topics for Discussion

- (1) Introductions
- (2) Review of the National 4-H Club Camp Program
- (3) Nature and Content of Report for this Committee
- (4) Integrating Soil, Cover and Animal Factors in 4-H Club Activities
- (5) Plans for 4-H Club Work - American Plant Food Council
- (6) Action by Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work in Land Judging
- (7) Land Appreciation Schools and Land Judging
- (8) Soil and Water Conservation Demonstrations
- (9) Report on 4-H Club Activities of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company
- (10) Report on Soil and Water Conservation Days for Young Men and Women
- (11) 1954 4-H Soil and Water Conservation Awards Program Announcement - Standard Report and Score Card
- (12) Working Relationships on 4-H Club Work with Soil Conservation Districts - Representation on Committee
- (13) Report by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work on 4-H Club Work
- (14) Young Outdoor American Program - Izaak Walton League
- (15) Soil and Water Conservation in Camping Programs
- (16) Recent Changes in SCS Policies Significant in 4-H Club Work in Soil and Water Conservation
- (17) Visual Aids and Other New Working Materials
- (18) Leadership Development for 4-H Club Work in Soil and Water Conservation
- (19) Discussion of Additional Subjects

4-H Club Exhibit

Visit the exhibit in the patio of the Administration Building, USDA.

Meeting with Representatives of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work

Time will be devoted to summarizing discussions and recommendations helpful in further project development.

